Review of implementation of Special Projects for Child Labour

244. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government have recently reviewed implementation of special projects for child labour in various States;

(b) if so, the details of the results achieved in implementation of the projects and check effectively deployment of child labour, particularly in hazardous industries, State-wise;

(c) the details of major violations noticed by the State Governments for deployment of child labour in hazardous industries during the past one year; State-wise; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives proposed in the light of experience gained for qualitative improvement in implementation of welfare scheme designed to improve the lot of child labour during 1997-98; State-wise with numerical coverage of child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Government have recently got an evaluation of identified child labour projects conducted through imdependent evaluation agencies. Evaluation reports received have shown, inter alia, that the projects have been able to achieve their immediate objectives to a great extent; that the magnitude of the child labour problem can be considerably reduced through rehabilitation measures by the projects and that there is need to continue the camp approach or special schools. The need for awareness generation among the public has also been highlighted. The pace and progress of these projects is also reviewed by holding periodical review meetings with Chairman, Project Directors and NGOs implementing these projects and through quarterly progress reports furnished by them.

So far around 1.05 lakh children withdrawn from hazardous occupations have already been enrolled in the special schools set up under these projects. Statewise coverage under the National Child Labour Projects is given in statement. *(See below).*

(c) Important violations noticed include giving employment without adequate proof of age, non-maintenance of registers of workers etc.

(d) While the Government was still considering extension of the programme to other districts, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgement of 10.12.96 issued several directions regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations are to be withdrawn and rehabilitated as also the manner in which the working conditions of children working in non hazardous occupations are to be improved upon and regulated. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, inter alia, include conducting of a survey to identify the working children, payment of compensation @Rs. 20,000 per child by the offending employers for employment of children in the hazardous occupations, setting up of Child Labour Welfare-cum-Rehabilitation Funds and provision of education to children working in non-hazardous occupations at employer's cost. The implementation of the directions of the Court will continue to be the most important basis for tackling the problem of child labour during 1997-98.

Statement-I

Coverage Under National Child Labour Project

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of Dist. Covered	Sanctioned	Covergare	Actual No. of Sch.	Coverage No. of children
			No. of Sch.	No. of Children		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	807	43,550	610	36,249
2.	Bihar	08	174	12,200	173	10,094
3.	Gujarat	02	040	2,000	023	1,254
4.	Karnataka	03	100	5,000	024	1,200
5.	Madhya Pradesh	05	138	9,800	087	6,524
6.	Maharashtra	02	074	3,700	024	1,200
7.	Orissa	16	430	33,000	239	14,972
8.	Rajasthan	02	060	3,000	054	2,700
9.	Tamil Nadu	08	379	19,500	307	14,684
10.	Uttar Pradesh	04	150	11,500	105	7,488
11.	West Bengal	06	219	12,000	164	8,250
	TOTAL	76	2571	1,55,250	1810	1,04,615

Exemption of IOC and ONGC from Operation of EPF Act

245. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on exemption of IOC, ONGC from the operation of Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions (Amendment) Act, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CPFC, Delhi and RPFC, Kanpur and Maharashtra have initiated any action against IOC and ONGC for violation of the said Act and also have received PF deposits in terms of the Act from ONGC, IOC Ltd.;

(d) if so, the amount, the aforesaid two Corporations have deposited till date and what amount is due from ONGC and IOC;

(e) whether Government have granted pension to the applicants of IOC; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The application for exemption from operation of the Employees' Pension Scheme submitted by the IOC has been considered and rejected. However, no exemption application in the prescribed proforma has been received by the Government in respect of the ONGC.

(c) and (d) The EPF Authorities are taking necessary action against the IOC and ONGC for securing compliance under the EPF & MP Act, 1952. The actual amount due from the IOC and ONGC under the Act is being worked out.

(e) and (f) For payment of pension under the EPS, a member is required to submit a formal application to the concerned Regional Provident Fund Commissioner (RPFC). So far, no application in the prescribed proforma has been submitted to the EPF Authorities. Necessary action for payment of pension to the eligible members of the IOC will be taken as and when the requisite applications are submitted to the concerned RPFC.

बाल श्रम का उन्मूलन

246. **प्रो॰ राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा:**
श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: